

the Alliance Witness

(FORMERLY THE ALLIANCE WEEKLY)

OCTOBER 22, 1958



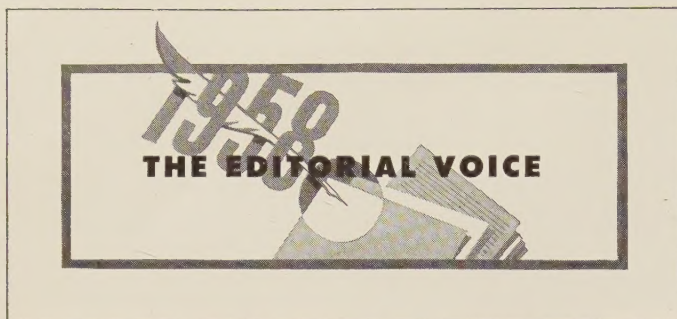
E. D. STROHM

YOUTH LEADER AMONG THE MANOBOS, PHILIPPINES

In this issue

Who Are the Elite?

By Rev. Paul S. Allen



A PERSONAL WORD TO OUR FRIENDS

The annual ALLIANCE WITNESS subscription drive opens Sunday, October 19, and will continue until Sunday, November 30.

It is our hope that our large family of readers will get behind the drive at the very beginning and urge it forward to the end. Only by so doing will the number of our readers multiply and the family grow larger.

The wise old epigrammatist said, "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips." What is said of individual men must also apply to magazines. It would be indelicate for the editor to call attention to the virtues of THE ALLIANCE WITNESS. If it has qualities that recommend it to the heart and intellect of the serious Christian, those qualities will be self-evident; if not, it would be absurd for me to claim them. The magazine must stand or fall on its own merits, or as Paul might say, it must commend itself to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

It would be a waste of effort for me to appeal for help to those who are lukewarm toward the WITNESS, but *I am greatly encouraged to know that our Subscription Campaign will be a resounding success if those readers who are fervent admirers of the magazine will translate their fervor into practical labors to increase its circulation.*

That the WITNESS has thousands of enthusiastic friends is not a wishful hope on my part. These friends have taken the trouble to say so loudly. It is to such as these that we look for assistance in expanding the circle of ALLIANCE WITNESS readers. Good wishes and moral support are not enough. Faith without works is dead. We must have the kind of help that will actually swell our subscription list.

First, enthusiastic pastors and campaign managers are indispensable. The subscription drive in any church depends entirely upon how much intelligent planning and hard work are put into it. Very few persons will come to the pastor and offer to subscribe. The magazine must be *sold* to new readers. After they have read it for a year they are likely to subscribe voluntarily, but until they are acquainted with it they constitute a "hard sell" market. It is the work of cheerful, enterprising advocates of THE ALLIANCE WITNESS to sell against a hard

market and turn it into an "easy" market for next year.

We have a considerable amount of proof that the WITNESS gets read when it is placed in reading rooms and in doctors' and dentists' offices. This must be repeated each year, of course, but the project of financing such an enterprise may be taken on by an AYF group or a Sunday school class. Offices and reading rooms are easy to find, once the money to pay for the subscriptions is provided.

One important fact should be kept in mind: The success of foreign missions and the circulation of THE ALLIANCE WITNESS are intimately related. A greater readership for the WITNESS inevitably means more friends for foreign missions and more dollars to support missionaries. This alone should stimulate every lover of world missions to back the Subscription Campaign.

—A. W. TOZER.

CALL TO PRAYER—JANUARY 9, 1959

In view of the emergencies facing The Christian and Missionary Alliance in our foreign missionary program, the General Council which met at Winnipeg in May requested that the president call for a special time of prayer. Accordingly, Dr. Harry L. Turner has designated Friday, January 9, 1959, as a day of prayer throughout our world-wide work.

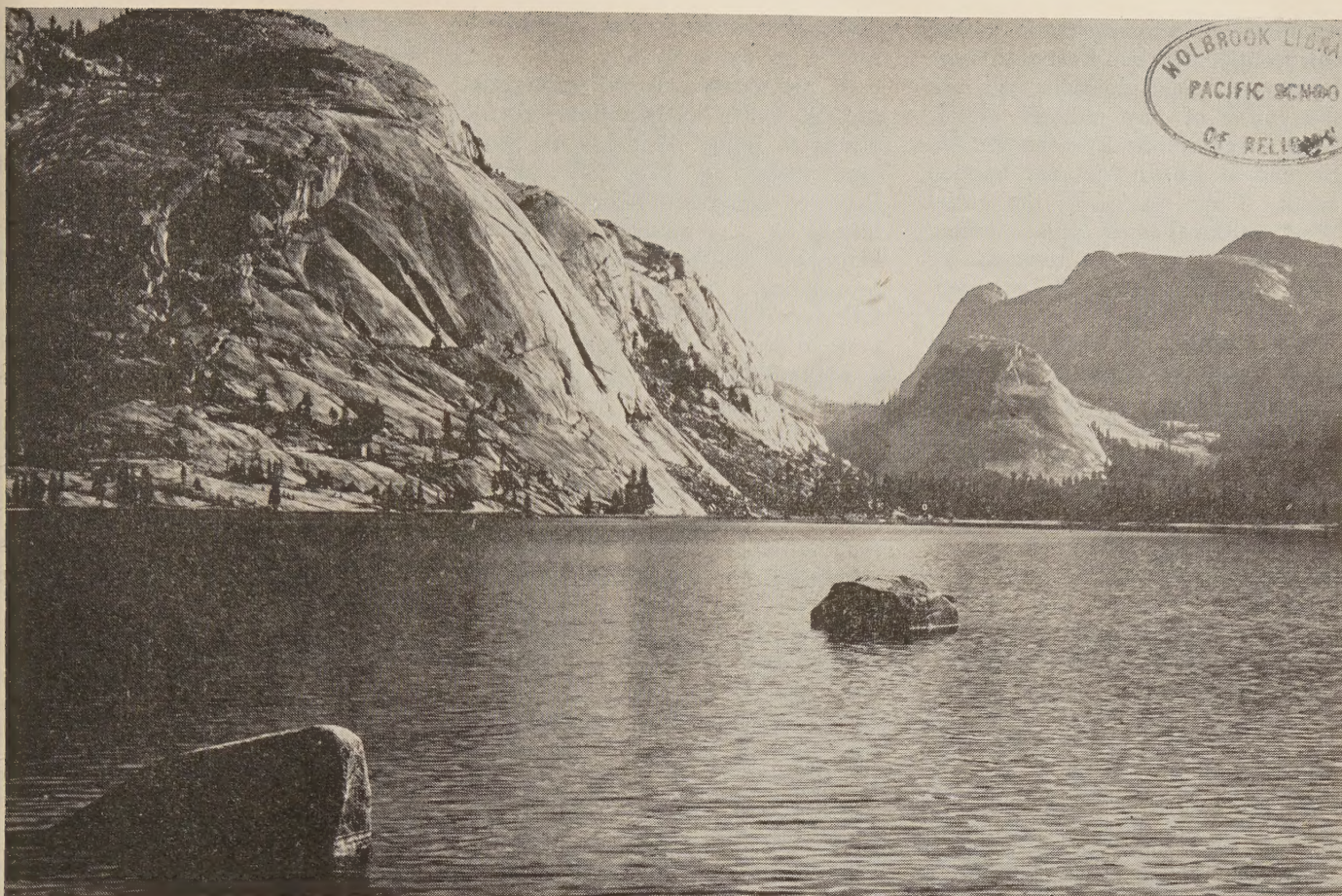
The proper carrying out of our present commitments on our twenty-two foreign fields requires the sending out of seventy-eight new missionaries each year. This provides for replacements due to retirements, illness or other circumstances (an average of twenty-five each year) and some advance.

While careful training, good health and the intellectual preparation of our candidates are all essential, yet the most important qualities are the anointing of the Holy Spirit, a disciplined Christian character, a spirit of courage and self-denial and a bold faith in God. Such candidates must be raised up by God. Support, transportation and field expense for these new workers means that our income must be increased by hundreds of thousands of dollars. This requires continued sacrificial giving by present donors as well as new resources in answer to prayer.

Tremendous opportunities face us in our foreign work, particularly in Southeast Asia; yet at the same time increasing restrictions against foreigners in some areas and political changes in others create an emergency situation. We are committed to the evangelization and spiritual edification of nearly fifty-five millions of persons in fields now open to us. United, effectual prayer is necessary for these needs.

Instead of the usual supply of sample copies of THE ALLIANCE WITNESS sent for use during the annual Subscription Campaign, our churches this year will receive an attractive folder describing the magazine.

Annual Subscription Campaign—October 19 through November 30



COX — GENDREAU

LAKE TENAYA, CALIF.

"Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear."

Who Are the Elite?

By REV. PAUL S. ALLEN

THE new commander of West Germany's NATO forces is quoted as saying to his recruits, "You are not going to find things easy, but remember, you are the elite!"

We recognize the elite of earth by the special privileges they enjoy or by other indications of elevated social position. In America our captains of industry are members of our elite. They perform a service in providing us with a wealth of convenience and luxury for which America says its thanks by conferring on them honors and distinctions, not the least of which is the amount of salary they enjoy.

The entertainment world has its elite. Skill and prowess on the football or baseball field, physical beauty, a charming voice, a radiant personality—these are assets which

can, under favorable circumstances, become the passport to the world of privilege such as we associate with the name "elite."

Even "classless" Russia can and does honor those who in its opinion are rendering it the highest service. Right now it is the scientist who is winned and dined because he has by his skill and perseverance made Russia a keen competitor for top honors in the field of scientific achievement.

With such use of the word "elite" we are familiar. But with what stretch of imagination can the poor trainees of defeated Germany be given such a title?

In reading these words of the German commander, I was reminded of similar words spoken by our Lord on the occasion of His last supper

with His disciples. "Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Luke 22: 28-30).

Here too we are in the presence of the elite, but in disguise.

If the elite are those rendering society its highest service, then we do wrong to look for it on the football field or the television screen. A Russian scientist put it very bluntly: "In Russia it is the scientist, not the football star, who takes the top salary." Of what good to us will be our wealth and our enjoyments if the ramparts of our Western world are not well manned? Western Germany

occupies an exposed position along this frontier between East and West. Its newly trained divisions will take the brunt of any military attack. Their responsibility is to see that the tragedy of Korea does not happen again. Their service to the entire West entitles them to a place among our elite, though the rewards for their services are hardly commensurate with the title.

But is military protection our chief need? The Eisenhower doctrine, granting military protection to the Middle East, has been noticeably insufficient to keep Communists from infiltrating the Arab world. Our chief danger seems to be from a quarter where military protection, important as it is in its place, fails to protect.

It is at this point that the words of our Lord take on new significance. His ministry was also that of rendering a service. He came to "seek and to save that which was lost." His mission was not to save men by entertainment, nor by providing all the luxuries and comforts their hearts might desire, nor even by protecting them from those who might covet their possessions. The only way He could save them was to give His life for them. Hence we see as the climax of His life not the crown and scepter, symbols of the elite, but thorns, the scourge and the

cross. He rendered man His greatest service by dying to save him.

As Christ faced these tragic events in preview He held the door ajar for others to follow Him in this same kind of service. "Ye . . . which have continued with me in my temptations . . . I appoint unto you a kingdom." Calvary would require a re-enactment in the lives of His followers if the service thus rendered to man was to be complete. Only as redemption's work was finished in Christ's crucifixion and witnessed to in the lives of His followers would the service He had come to render be perfected. Only in this divine-human coöperation, spelled out in redemption on the divine side and witnessing on the human side, was it to be possible for men to be released from the cancerous sore of self-seeking. If the elite are those who provide men with what they most need, then the Lord Jesus has with deepest understanding placed His followers in that category.

But what a major adjustment this takes in our everyday thinking! What a vast chasm lies between the system of values that emphasizes the desirability of an abundance of physical assets and the material protection to keep them ours, and that which emphasizes the deeper values of life and points the way to their realization! In one set of values the worldling finds himself completely at home. In the other orientation the Christian must at all times find himself.

We can as Christians respect science for its contribution to the comforts of modern living. But our respect will fall far short of the virtual worship being accorded this modern miracle-worker in many parts of the world. The mood of today appears to be one of wistful readiness to cast the world's gifts of frankincense and gold at the feet of the nation that first reaches the moon! It is such a mood that prompts the world of Revelation 13:3 to wonder after the beast, even though the sharp claws are clearly visible in the paw that adjusts the halo.

We can exercise restrained detachment toward the things that our American neighbors find so essential—their luxury gadgets and their idols of sport and screen. Relaxations and comforts can and do contribute to

life, but their providers have become the elite of America because there is such a clamorous demand for their products. The reason our science is channeled into making new automobile models every year instead of rockets and missiles is that the American public demands this luxury. The reason our football stars are top-salaried men is that people will knock over the turnstiles (as happened recently on a Sunday afternoon in San Francisco) in order to see them play. Luxury and entertainment have become an essential part of American life, and we Christians have accepted it also.

Perhaps it is because the words are somewhat out of place in our life of today that we fail to sing as we did a generation ago:

*"A tent or a cottage, why should I care?
They're building a palace for me over there!
Though exiled from home, yet still I may sing:
All glory to God, I'm the child of a King!"*

Do new values which go with a new Christian heart actually eclipse the old values by which most men live? Do they relax the hand from its desperate grip on material things that supposedly contribute so much to happiness? Do they create a detachment and an aloofness from things and theatricals to which worldlings are wedded and without which they cannot live? The answer is, they do indeed!

These are days of harvest. The chaff and the wheat are clearly in the process of separation. Each life will intensify its search for the things around which its values have been built. When Christ comes, those who "love his appearing" will gravitate to Him. Those who love their transient joys and treasures will gravitate to anyone holding out the greatest prospect for satisfying those wants.

Thus with deadly certainty will the harvest season have done its work. The tares are in bundles for burning. The wheat is ready for storing in barns in anticipation of those wintry blasts destined to sweep over the earth.

If you are a Christian, lift your head in quiet dignity and courage. You are the elite of earth because you are the elite of heaven. ♦ ♦ ♦

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The Use to Be Made of Our Faults

By JEAN NICOLAS GROU

THIS is a very important point in the spiritual life; God intends even our faults to set forward the sanctification of our souls, and it rests with our souls whether they do so or not. Not infrequently we suffer less real injury from a fault itself than from the way in which we deal with it.

I am not now speaking of people who give themselves grudgingly to God and so commit numberless deliberate faults which can in no way be turned to good account. The souls to which I refer are those who, in spite of all their resolutions against sin, are continually committing faults through impetuosity, weakness or inadvertence. Such people are wont to be greatly surprised and troubled at their faults; they give way to false shame and become fretful and disheartened. But these are so many signs of self-love, more hurtful to the soul than the original fault.

You are surprised at your imperfections—why? I should infer that your self-knowledge is small. Surely you might rather be astonished that you do not fall into more frequent and more grievous faults, and thank God for His upholding grace. You are worried when you detect a fault, you lose your inward peace, and your disturbance lasts hours or days, as the case may be. This is not right. You should never

allow yourself to be disturbed, but when fallen you should rise up quietly and turn with a loving heart to God for forgiveness.

The worst evil, however, is when we grow vexed at our faults; as François de Sales says, "We are angry because we are angry; impatient at having shown impatience. But this is sorry work, and if you will be honest with yourself you will see that it is altogether pride; you are mortified to find yourself weaker, less holy than you fancied yourself to be; perhaps too your aim was self-satisfaction, you wanted to be able to congratulate yourself on having spent a day or week free from faults. Then you grow discouraged, you relax your devotional exercises and begin to look upon perfection as unattainable."

"What is the use of such perpetual self-restraint and watchfulness?" you ask. "What good does all my recollection and mortification do me, if none of my faults are corrected and I grow no better?"

This is nothing more or less than a snare of the devil, and if you would escape it you must resolve not to be disheartened; but even if you were to fall a hundred time a day, determine to rise up each time, and go onwards. What will it matter though you have fallen by the way if you reach your journey's end safely at

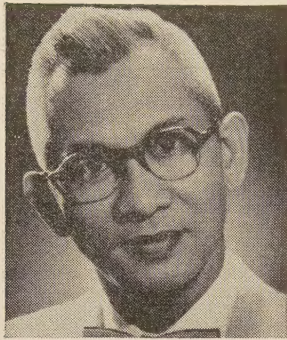
last? God will forgive the falls: they often are caused by undue haste, which prevents us from taking fitting precautions, or with timid souls from a perpetual looking around for imaginary dangers which causes them to stumble.

Perhaps the holiest men are not always those who commit fewest faults, but those who have most courage, most love and the most free spirit; those who make the heartiest efforts for conquering self, and who are not afraid of a stumble, even of a fall, so long as their progress is certain. St. Paul says that "all things work together for good to them that love God"; and we may be sure that even their faults are included. God permits them to cure our vain presumption and to teach us our true measure. It was so with David. "It is good for me that I have been in trouble, that I may learn thy statutes." Peter fell before he learned to know his own weakness. Paul remained humble amid triumphs granted to his eloquence. Remembering that he had been "a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious," he proclaimed himself the "chief of sinners" bearing a "thorn in the flesh"—all his days, "lest I should be exalted above measure."

Who can doubt that in like manner God will help us to use our

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Impressions of America



Rev. F. de Jesus

Rev. Florentino de Jesus, chairman of The Alliance Church in the Philippine Islands, and Rev. J. A. Dulaca, past chairman and now opening a new church in Ozamis City, visited Canada and the United States in May and June. Some of the things they observed are written for us here. At times their impressions were almost identical and the articles have been edited so there would not be repetition.

By REV. FLORENTINO DE JESUS

WHEN Mr. Dulaca and I were on our recent tour we visited sixty Alliance churches and four Bible colleges in the United States and Canada. We spoke in ninety church services. Attendance in these meetings ranged from ten to seven hundred persons. At the grand missionary rally at the General Council in Winnipeg there were over 1,500 people.

Our experiences were varied and many—so were our impressions. There was not a time or place where we felt we were amongst strangers as long as we were with Christians. Time and again we told congregations, "We are thousands of miles away from home, and yet feel perfectly at home with you because we know Calvary has made us one in the Christian faith."

The high light of this tour was the General Council of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Winnipeg, Canada. We were invited by the Board of Managers to be their guests. With seven hundred delegates and several hundred visitors you might think we would have been lost in the crowd. But this never did happen simply because of our leaders who were the personification of humility and love.

The Foreign Secretary, Rev. L. L. King, introduced us to the whole Council and gave us many opportunities to speak of the Lord's doings in the Philippines, especially during the pre-Council missionary conference. The President, Dr. H. L. Turner, also gave me the great honor

of serving with him at the Lord's table during Communion service—a scene many thought was most touching because it evidenced the fellowship that the shed blood of Christ made possible. Someone said, "It was worth traveling five hundred miles just to be able to attend such a service." Dr. R. R. Brown accorded us the honor of a part in the great missionary rally which climaxed the Council. Brother Dulaca prayed in Spanish. I spoke on the role played by the national church leaders in hastening the spread of the gospel light in the dark regions of the earth.

Years ago we heard of the women's missionary prayer bands. Therefore I made it a point to see whether such a thing still exists. To my heart's satisfaction I found it to be so. The prayer rooms or mission halls told the story. Maps of mission fields and pictures of missionaries, national leaders and native congregations decorated such rooms. Prayer letters from mission fields, missionary albums and curios in such halls are constant prayer reminders. Many times at the close of a service we would be approached by women who would greet us with a warm handshake and say, "We have been praying for you by name." One said, "I prayed for your healing thirty years ago."

One lady surprised me with this question, "How are Rev. and Mrs. Abad, the Madrigals, Espas, Dimaanos, Padas?" In another place someone asked how Mrs. Cando was.

Others asked about one missionary after another, and before long I discovered that here and there all our Philippine missionaries were remembered at the throne by these faithful intercessors. Someone accosted me with this question: "How is Ebenezer [Bible Institute]; and Bett Aragon, our adopted Filipina daughter?" "Do you know Acocoro?" and a string of other questions. Still others inquired of the ministry of the Mission launches, *Truth, Glory and Hope*. A jubilant lady told me that when she woke up one morning the Lord gave her a burden to pray for Margosatubig. And another asked the whereabouts of the Bahayluk brothers.

Missionary giving is also most amazing. We noticed that even where congregations are small and where the churches have building projects of long standing the annual missionary pledges increased from year to year. They realize that any money invested in missions brings eternal dividends.

Not having had enough time to know the functions of the four C. & M. A. Bible colleges, I can only say from the little contact we have had with the students and faculty that the academic standard is being improved from year to year so as to gain recognition from men and government. My hope and prayer is that the day will never come when we shall be interested only in the approval and commendation of men and not from God—fill the heads of

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THE ALLIANCE WITNESS

"May I take this opportunity to thank every pastor and his wife, and every other one in whose home I stayed. The children also helped make my stay a very happy one. . . . I felt at home and not a stranger. . . ."

HAVING read much about America I had the desire to visit that country. I wanted to see for myself the people, their way of life, their patriotic spirit, their spiritual Christian living, and see indeed what makes America great.

God opened the way for me last April. At the invitation of The Christian and Missionary Alliance Board of Managers I attended the General Council at Winnipeg, Canada. Also I visited some of their churches before and after the Council. This gave me a very rare opportunity. Praise God.

The evening Rev. F. de Jesus and I arrived by plane in Seattle, Washington, the city lights flickering in the darkness made it look like an emerald city.

The first thing that impressed me was the roaring sound of motor traffic and the number of automobiles. As we traveled I saw hundreds of cars standing on lots and over them was written in bold letters "For Sale." As we passed along I lifted my heart unto God saying: "Lord, see all these vehicles. They are just lying here idle. No one is using them. In the Philippines there is not even an old jeep I can use for Thy work. If only some of these vehicles could be sent to the Philippines and be made available to Thy workmen, how much sooner would we be able to reach the remote areas." I remembered how an old Chevrolet helped me open new work in the interior of Zamboanga Province. In those places now there are some organized churches and new church buildings are standing as a result of the preached Word of God.

Indeed, America is a country of motor transport: street cars, trains and buses with their huge sight-seeing domes, airplanes and helicopters that roar in the skies. These, together with the freeways and turnpikes, all add to the tremendous high-speed living that the American people so much love. They are al-

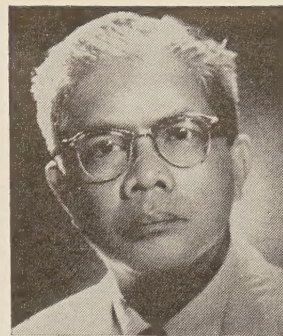
ways on the hurry. I believe that this can give us a lesson that we must hurry and go with the gospel so that those who are in the darkness of superstition and unbelief may have a chance to hear the message of salvation at least once.

The skyscrapers reminded me that Christians must live above the common level of men. In our morals and ideals, in our treatment of our fellow men, we must indeed be far above the ordinary practices of men. Our spiritual ideals must be so lofty that people may be able to see that we are different; that we live above the world, not pleasing men but pleasing God in all things. Oh, that Christians today would realize that we are living in the last days and that "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

The zeal of Christians in America can be seen in the way they build their churches and in their treatment of their pastors. A church building is an expression of devotion, love and faithfulness to God. They are not permitted to build a chapel consisting of four posts and a covering above for protection from the sun and the elements. Most church buildings are of concrete or of other hard materials. The churches I attended and in which I had the opportunity to speak had congregations ranging from ten persons to seven hundred or more. Of great concern also is the parsonage. It seems that the pastors live on the level of their congregations.

I was impressed with the sacrifices of the Christian people, especially when it comes to giving for missions. Everyone is eager to have the next year's missionary goal increased. I take this opportunity to say that I wish the churches in our country and in every other mission field would have more interest in missions. Our efforts and concern to win the lost will help hasten the Lord's return.

I believe that the missionary activ-



Rev. J. A. Dulaca

ity of the churches in America has brought the blessing of God upon America. "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" was not spoken to a particular class of people. This command was given to everyone who had accepted Christ as his Saviour and Lord. Oh, that Christians in the Orient should respond to the needs of the present day; that our churches may find vindication through self-support, self-government and self-propagation. Let us not spoil ourselves by always being dependent children, dependent upon those who are also depending upon the same heavenly Father who giveth to all liberally. But let us bind ourselves in bands and pray, and seek and wait for the blessing that God has in store for us as we also obey and do His bidding.

I had the opportunity to see and meet the students in the Canadian Bible College, St. Paul Bible College and Nyack Missionary College. The friendliness of the students, their hospitality, their care and esteem for us brought memories of our own Ebenezer Bible School in the Philippines. There were many things in common. One of these brought heaviness to my heart: There are more women students than men students in every one of these colleges. I do not mean that I have a dislike for the female students. I have a very high esteem of them. I admire their courage and their determination to follow the footsteps of the lowly Nazarene. The Lord bless them for their noble dedication and consecration. How my heart goes out in love and sympathy for them. Although more frail and weak than men, they have the courage to give their lives on the altar of service for

the King. These young ladies cannot endure hardness as the men do. They have less resistance against the strain in the mission field. Brethren, we need men, men who will fill the ranks of those who have fallen in the battlefield.

A woman in Portland approached me after the service with tears in her eyes saying: "I wish I were twenty years younger that I might go to the mission field. But it is too late now. Here is my boy; I have dedicated him to the Lord's service. He will take my place in the mission field." The boy looked up to me and smiled. I said, "Bless your heart, young man; may the Lord use you mightily as you obey His command and go." I believe he wants to please God. May other young hearts accept the call today and go as the Lord may bid them. ♦ ♦ ♦

IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA

(Continued from page 6)

our youth with secular knowledge but leave their hearts empty of the spiritual—the nonessential taking the place of the essential. I know it takes grace and true consecration for degree holders to go and serve the Lord in some little corner unknown to the world. The old formula still holds good today, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

I am sure that what I am about to say of pastors' families with whom we have had the privilege of fellowshiping also can be said of the rest we did not get to meet. In these homes the presence of Christ was manifest. Godly fear, the joy of the Lord and love for His Word and work were evident in their speech and actions. Being myself a father of four grown children, I was thrilled beyond words to see P. K.'s (preacher's kids) assisting their parents at the pulpit, helping with the music, the radio ministry, youth work and Sunday school. Some are preparing for full-time ministry, while others are already on the mission fields! Would to God every parent would be able to say from experience, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

The most alarming observation we had was to discover the absence of young people in religious gatherings. With the exception of about

half a dozen churches, the services were attended by the "aged," so that my conclusion is that the older people are God-conscious while the youth are world-conscious. The former seek for pleasures that last; the latter crave for worldly pleasure which tends to lust (lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of life). One experienced pastor said that today as never before young people will bow in prayer at the altar saying, "Lord, I surrender all," but then do nothing about it. Then when faced with trying circumstances as a test to their consecration they easily draw back.

If such conditions prevail, who will take up the gospel torch laid down by veteran missionaries and ministers who are forced to retire due to old age? One cannot go for even a brief visit at the Mission Colony in Glendale, California, without being inspired by the lives of these saints of God. They consider themselves to have retired only from public preaching (I know of one eighty-seven-year-old man who still averages two services a week), but not from the glorious ministry of intercession. ♦ ♦ ♦

THE USE MADE OF OUR FAULTS

(Continued from page 5)

daily faults for greater sanctification? All the masters of the spiritual life have observed that God permits the holiest men to retain certain defects, never wholly overcome, in order to teach them how weak they are without His grace, to check any pride because of His gifts, to destroy the lurking remains of vanity which beset the soul, to keep up constant watchfulness, dependence on God and unfailing prayer. The little child who falls as he is learning to walk clasps tighter hold of his mother after he has hurt himself.

Then, too, our faults sometimes lead to opportunities of good which would not else have arisen. Some outbreak of temper or harshness or impatience leads you to humble yourself in reparation. The fault was sudden and not premeditated; the reparation is deliberate and hearty, though it cost you no small effort. Hence it was more acceptable to God than the fault was displeasing.

Again, He sometimes veils real

Urgent Prayer Request

A serious threat is mounting against the rapidly growing churches in the Kidapawan area among the Manobo tribes of central and western Cotabato Province in the Philippines.

Datu Siawan, a Manobo chief, has embraced the Moslem faith and is allying himself with the Moros to force all Manobos to become Moslems. Several times Datu Siawan has threatened the life of Mr. Burang, pastor to the churches in that area. The Moros say that if they can remove Mr. Burang all the Manobos will accept Islam. A lay-worker in one of the churches has had two narrow escapes from death. Once the weapon was a knife and once a gun.

Rev. and Mrs. William Christie, who live at Kidapawan, write, "Only the Lord can prevent a terrible calamity here." They request earnest prayer on behalf of the Manobo Christians and the workers among them. Talk of an Arab union in the Near East apparently has stirred the Moros to increase their efforts to make converts in traditional Moslem style.



holiness under external imperfections, which most readily meet the eye of our neighbor, so as to prevent the praise of men from tarnishing true humility. God is a mighty Master of souls, be it ours to let Him work His way in us. By all means let it be your great object never to offend Him in anything, but when you have committed a fault, strive to be sorry, not for your mortified pride but because you have displeased Him; accept all inevitable humiliation, ask God to turn it to His glory, and you will make greater progress in holiness than by the most precise and outwardly well regulated life if it leads to self-love.

If God requires anything of us we have no right to draw back under the pretext that we are liable to commit some fault in obeying. It is better to obey imperfectly than not at all. Perhaps you avoid the society of certain persons because they make you cross or impatient. How are you to attain self-control if you shun all occasions of practicing it? Is not such self-choosing a greater fault than those in which you fear to fall? Aim at a steady mind to do right, go wherever duty calls you, and believe firmly that God is an indulgent Father and will forgive the faults which take our weaknesses by surprise in spite of our sincere desire to please Him. ♦ ♦ ♦



DAVID R. ENLOW, Editor

AT HOME

Group sponsoring "Missionaries by Mail" project: A small group of Christian artists in the Chicago area is presently engaged in a project well worth watching—and praying for. The primary purpose of the "Missionaries by Mail" project is to supply drawings and layouts, free of charge, to missionaries engaged in publishing in foreign fields. This labor of love on the part of the artists represents a step in the right direction towards filling a huge void in missionary publications. It is hoped that other Christian artists throughout the country will follow the Chicago group's lead.

ACCC meets in Johnson City: The seventeenth annual convention of the American Council of Christian Churches begins October 28 at the First Baptist Church in Johnson City, N. Y. Theme for the meeting is "Light for the Last Days." Special emphasis will be placed on Christian education and on the role of the ACCC in assisting Ukrainian and Hungarian refugees here to establish churches.

Naturalization for missionary spouses speeded: A bill providing for quicker naturalization of spouses and adopted children of American missionaries who must leave the country has been signed by the President. Missionaries who serve overseas under American mission organizations are considered to be "temporarily absent" from the U. S. for purposes of the immigration and naturalization laws.

Public libraries get Christian books: Small libraries of Christian books being placed in public libraries all over the country are finding wide acceptance, according to Kenneth N. Taylor, director of Moody Literature Mission. Under a new program just begun, Moody Literature Mission is offering free Bible story books and Christian fiction to all of the 6,500 public libraries in the country.

ABROAD

Teams work in neighboring countries: Amazing opportunities for evangelism are being encountered by student teams from the Union Biblical Seminary, in Yeotmal, India. At present there are teams working in Nepal, Tibet, Kashmir, Bhutan, Sikkim and Patra, in addition to

those working in India itself. Some of these teams work with churches, some with missionaries, and some are known as "pay-as-you-go faith teams."

Archaeologists unearth ancient city: The ancient city of Sardis, once the capital of wealthy King Croesus and later the seat of a Christian bishop in Roman times, has been discovered by a team of six archaeologists from Cornell and Harvard universities. The discovery climaxed two months of excavation in Turkey. Sardis, site of one of the "seven churches which are in Asia," mentioned in the Book of Revelation, was one of the foremost cities of the ancient world.

Ghana invites missions leader: Dr. Bob Pierce, president of World Vision, Inc., has been invited to conduct a major evangelistic crusade in Ghana (Africa) next February to aid in the celebration observance of the country's second year of independence.

PEOPLE

Retired Lutheran leader honored: Some 350 persons paid tribute to Dr. Thorwald O. Burntvedt, retiring president of the Lutheran Free Church (LFC), and Mrs. Burntvedt at a testimonial dinner in Minneapolis, Minn. Dr. John M. Stensvaag, LFC president-elect, credited Dr. Burntvedt with "steering the Lutheran Free Church through many troubled waters" during his twenty-eight years as president of the denomination.

Reporter named to Presbyterian post: Stanley J. Rowland, Jr., a religious news reporter for *The New York Times*, has been named associate director of information for the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Physicians become Lutheran missionaries: Two Minnesota physicians have given up their medical practices in the state to become medical missionaries to Tanganyika, East Africa. Dr. Dennis Lofstrom, who has practiced at Pine River, Minn., was commissioned at First Lutheran Church, St. Peter, Minn. Dr. Joseph Norquist, who practiced at Thief River Falls, was commissioned at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, St. Paul.

THE PRESS

Two new "luxury Bibles" to appear in 1959: The Abingdale Press, New York, publishers of fine art books, will bring out in the spring of 1959 two profusely illustrated and brilliantly designed Bibles: the *Masterpiece Bible* and the *Rembrandt Bible*. Each is to retail for \$50.00.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Church to become shrine: Old Octarara, a church established by Scottish Presbyterians four miles east of Quarryville, Pennsylvania, more than 200 years ago, will likely be established as a shrine by the United Presbyterian Church of North America. It has not been used for regular worship since 1915.

Rally Echoes—and Plans

A day of great spiritual blessing and rich fellowship is reported from the Labor Day Rally conducted in the North Georgia area. The meeting was held in the Avondale Estates Alliance Church in Atlanta.

Dr. Richard H. Harvey, well-known evangelist and youth worker, was the featured speaker in both the morning and afternoon services. The Lord gave unusual liberty in both sessions, and at the close of each many young fellows and girls went to the altar to yield their lives fully to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Other features of the day included a rousing singspiration under the direction of Mr. Henry Grosh. Young people from the various churches participated in a spirited Bible sword-drill. The host church prepared a special fried chicken dinner for those attending the rally.

Rev. James E. Rich, pastor of the Avondale Estates church, reported a total of 249 in attendance. The First Alliance Church of Atlanta placed first, with forty-four registered. Other North Georgia churches represented at the rally were Adams Park and East Lake in Atlanta, Columbus, Marietta, Rome and Toccoa Falls.

Youth rallies are a very important feature of our national youth program, and we are greatly concerned that every effort shall be made throughout all our areas to unite in this spiritual endeavor. A new effort is being put forth to supply our rally leaders with helpful material in organizing and planning programs. We urge all our youth fellowships to support these meetings.

The National Youth Office has just released a Rally Leader's Handbook which is being sent to all our rally presidents as a guide for building stronger spiritual youth rally programs.

We are anxious to receive reports of outstanding spiritual events or program features for the inspiration of our Youth Page readers.

Gossip

"I am more deadly than the screaming shell. I ruin without killing. I tear down homes, break hearts and wreck lives. I travel on the wings of the wind. No innocence is strong enough to intimidate me, no purity pure enough to daunt me. I have no regard for truth, no respect for justice, no mercy for the defenseless. My victims are as numerous as the sands of the sea, and often as innocent. I never forget and seldom forgive. My name is *Gossip*."

Concerning the tongue, the Scriptures declare: "Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. . . . The tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be" (James 3:5-10).

No man can tame the tongue, but God can! "Set a watch, O Lord,

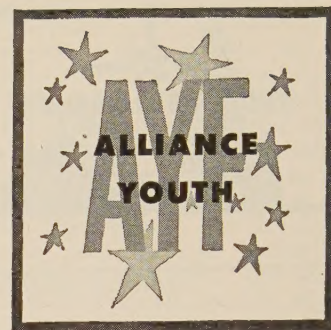
Be Strong in the Lord

*Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.*

*Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up thine eyes, and seek His face,
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.*

*Faint not, nor fear; His arms are near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.*

—JAMES S. B. MONSELL.



WELDON B. BLACKFORD, Editor

before my mouth; keep the door of my lips" (Psa. 141:3).

Here's An Idea

Theodore Woodruff, a student at Nyack Missionary College, planned a novel presentation for the weekly AYF meeting in his church in Chatham, New Jersey, this summer.

With tape recorder in hand, he came to the National Headquarters of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in New York City to make a recording for a program he entitled "Missions and You." God had given him a burden for missions and he was deeply concerned about getting this burden across to the AYFers in his church. He recorded five-minute challenges from our national leaders on subjects he had chosen for the outline of his program. The tape also included recorded music from the Nyack Missionary College and his home church. The speakers on the tape included Rev. Weldon B. Blackford, National Youth Secretary; Rev. J. J. Van Hine, missionary and a member of the Finance Department; Rev. John Becker, Assistant Dean of Men at Nyack Missionary College, and his own pastor, Rev. Leroy C. Webber.

This tape is available to other Alliance Youth Fellowships upon request. Write to Theodore Woodruff, Nyack Missionary College, Nyack, New York.



How's Your Conversation?

Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.

"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ."

THE ALLIANCE WITNESS

Filipino Christians Withstand A Murderous Onslaught

From a report

By REV. BYRON W. ROSS

TO this day the people in the Southern Philippines shudder at the mention of the word *juramentado*. It used to mean that in the midst of a crowded street or market and without warning a fanatical Moro armed with a razor sharp kris had started his murderous dance of death, slaying all "infidels" in his path. Imagining himself invincible, the blood-crazed devotee would continue relentlessly until someone killed him.

In recent years the *juramentado* is practically unknown. Moslem religious leaders coöperate with the Philippine government in discouraging this practice. They are required by law to report anyone who takes the preliminary vow to kill. Since the ceremony connected with the vow is an essential part of undertaking a *juramentado*, this is an effective control.

Often there occur instances, though not for religious reasons, of people running amuck. The effect is just as deadly for anyone who is within reach. Some insult or an injury arouses a man, or he simply explodes from an accumulation of frustrations. Blinded with anger, he considers everyone his enemy and slashes out furiously. This kind of slaughter happens not infrequently in places other than the Philippines. Yet when it does occur in the Philippines the traditional fear aroused by the bloodcurdling cry "*juramentado*" lends to the occasion a powerful and paralyzing horror.

Perhaps the most heart-rending example of such a situation occurred one night at the port of Zamboanga. Missionaries had taken some students from Ebenezer Bible Institute to the pier. The young people were to embark on a ship bound for a part of the islands where they were

to engage in the Lord's service. Another ship was casting off as the students were boarding theirs. Suddenly they heard screaming and cries for help. The moving ship's lights went out and the motors stopped. No one on the pier could see the carnage that took place in the next few minutes.

On the two open decks of this small vessel most of the passengers had unrolled their bedding and prepared for the night. They were nearly all migrating from the northern islands to Mindanao. Whole families were making this transfer hoping to settle in the fertile valleys of the large southern island and make a new start. Whatever savings they had were secreted in their bundles of baggage.

One man and his son discovered that the bundle containing a con-

Pedro Villa was able to subdue the murderer, though his arms are crippled

B. W. ROSS



siderable sum of money from the sale of their land in the north had been stolen. Immediately they grasped the big blades they used in clearing brush and leaped to positions commanding both decks. They were sure the thief was on the ship. Loudly they demanded that their money be returned. Some of the passengers tried to reason with them. Infuriated by their failure to secure the desired response and considering the attitude of their fellow passengers as unfeeling mockery, they began slashing.

The ship was too far from shore for the police to board it, and yet it was held by one rope that had not been cast off. As quickly as possible searchlights from larger ships at the pier were turned on the darkened decks, illuminating the two men. Bullets from police weapons quickly felled them. The thief was never found. It is assumed that he had slipped overboard before the loss was discovered. But the decks were bathed in the blood of many innocent victims.

The missionaries' car, as well as all others in the vicinity of the pier, was pressed into service to carry to the hospital passengers who had been wounded. A mass funeral was arranged for the dead, and provision had to be made for the many children who were suddenly orphaned in a city far from anyone they knew.

Recently in the small settlement of Margos on Sarangani Bay another man ran amuck. This incident is of particular interest because several Christian families were involved. The man, a powerfully built Moro, was armed with two bolos (heavy broad blades used to split coconuts and to clear brush). Evidently family troubles precipitated his action. In the darkness of the early tropical morning he slashed his two brothers and then ran to neighboring houses. The occupants all were sleeping. One slash of the bolo took off the back of a woman's head; another cut her in the back. Her fifteen-year-old son was slashed down the shoulder. Her husband was cut on the back, and then his ribs were cut and his lung punctured. In defense he raised his right arm, and his hand was sliced.

In the next house a mother with a newborn baby threw herself across

her children to save their lives. Her heroism was effective but she herself was gashed deeply. Only a few moments before her husband had left for the day's work in his field.

An elderly Visayan lay dead on the trail a short distance away. He had been decapitated. A little farther away, both the father and daughter of a young widow lay dead.

Alerted by screams and wailing from the houses nearby, Pedro Villa, who had recently become a believer in Christ, tried to barricade the entrance to his home. But the killer crashed through the flimsy door. Mr. Villa gives praise to the Lord that he was instantly impelled to rush his assailant. As he grappled with him the flailing blades cut his back but he held on for a half hour. Mrs. Villa was able then to wrest the bolos from the Moro's grasp, intending to stab him. This risky aid Pedro did not want. In an effort to avoid having his eyes gouged out, he thrust the attacker from him and then struck him in the jaw so hard that he fell over the porch railing to the ground. In a few minutes the killer was brought to the end of his murderous career.

This feat would have done any strong man credit. But Pedro Villa is a semicripple; both his arms were broken several years ago in a fall from a coconut tree. The breaks were improperly set so that he cannot use one arm and his other arm is stiff. The Lord used a weakened man to confound a mighty one. "The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong" (Ecc. 9:11).

From his house next door Rev. William Young, superintendent for the national church in that district, hastened to the scene. Seeing that the cuts were too deep to be treated adequately with first aid, he dispatched the Mission-owned vinta to bring the doctor from Glan. Powered with an outboard motor, the narrow boat returned with the doctor by 10:30 A.M. In that time it had traveled thirty-four nautical miles.

With the doctor was a sanitary inspector and a midwife to assist him. They labored through the heat of the day to save the lives of ten persons. A total of twenty-three cuts required one hundred and sixty-

(Continued on page 19)



The Cambodia Mission with guests: Rev. R. M. Chrisman (third row, fifth from left) and Rev. T. G. Ziemer (row two, fourth from right) and Mrs. Ziemer (fifth from right)

Advances in Cambodia

As the missionaries of the Cambodia Mission met in conference at Dalat, Viet Nam, in May they united in praise to God for the advances made.

- Ministry among the young people is the brightest phase of the work. District and national youth conferences are well attended and the meetings are marked with numbers of young people coming to the Lord. Local societies show encouraging growth because of the training given at the national conferences. In Kompong Cham, where there has been no pastor during the year, the young people have taken the lead.
- *The Chinese Christians are building their own chapel at Pnom Penh to replace the one that burned a few years ago. The Christians have given money and jewelry joyfully for this purpose.*
- The good representation at the Cambodian National Church conference, which was held for five days at Ta Khmau, was a great encouragement. Donations of rice and money from the Christians were more than ample to care for all the expenses of the conference.
- *Three new graduates of the Bible school are going into the work, trusting God for their support.*
- The Mission Press last year printed six and a half million pages of literature. This included the Bible Magazine, especially for Christians, and many tracts and booklets.
- *In February Pastor Choi, a Korean missionary to Thailand, held evangelistic meetings in Pnom Penh and five other stations. The fact that the evangelist was an Asian himself and came from a formerly strong Buddhist country, now Christian, had a powerful effect upon those who heard him.*
- Christians in Kampot are taking a step of faith in purchasing property and beginning work on a church building.
- *Since last conference several Kui tribesmen (there are 20,000 of them in Kompong Thom Province) have prayed, and in the Kratie area some tribal leaders have expressed their desire to become Christians and are urging that missionaries or workers come to live among them. It is difficult to reach the Kui tribes and this fact, together with the opposition of the government to the evangelization of the Mnong tribespeople, emphasizes the need of earnest prayer for this work.*
- The Mission launch has been used to reach people living in the floating villages on the Great Lake in Battambang Province.
- *Takeo, a previously unoccupied province with a large population, now has a new missionary couple residing there and overseeing the work.*

General

Pray that many adequately prepared young people will be available for 1959 appointments. The need is great on all fields. Pray, too, that there will be sufficient increase in the income for the transportation and support of these new missionaries, as well as the opening of new work on the fields. . . . Pray that missionaries and national workers and laymen will experience a spiritual quickening, that all may bring forth fruit in abundance. . . . Pray for missionaries on furlough, that they may know physical, mental and spiritual restoration and enrichment, and that their deputation will yield fruit in salvation, the dedication of lives and the raising up of prayer warriors.

French West Africa

Rev. and Mrs. Nathan Ost request prayer for a woman dying of cancer. She is the head of all the women's fetish rites in a nearby village. A sore appeared on her tongue about a year ago and in spite of having access to all the fetishes and medicines she has had no help. Recently her brother's wife, a real believer, led her to the Lord. She can hardly utter an intelligible word but her mind is clear and keen. The elders anointed her for healing. Her deliverance would be a real testimony among the people.

Congo

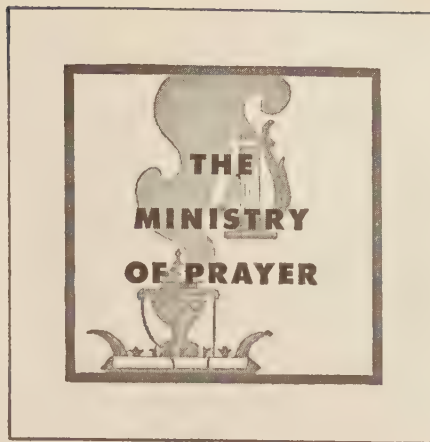
Pray that Christian homes will be established. Home life as we know it and as the Bible teaches it is almost unknown among our Congo people. Since the breakdown of tribal restraints due to advancing civilization a spirit of lawlessness has overwhelmed both pagan and Christian young people. . . . Pray God to bless the literature being produced and to use it to enlighten minds about the false teachings prevalent in the Congo.

Viet Nam

Pray that the Christians will live godly lives, that God will use the existing church groups to establish other groups, that conditions in the country areas will continue to improve to favor the preaching of the gospel, that God's anointing will be upon all His servants in Viet Nam to the accomplishing of His purposes in that land. . . . Binh Dinh Province has over one million people, and only four small churches and one missionary couple. Pray that the Lord will enable them to establish many new churches in this area.

Cambodia

The message of tithing has been taught many years to the Christians in the city of Kampot, but they have not yet fully grasped the truth. Few have experienced the joy of giving. At this time they are beginning to build their first church. Pray that they will experience the blessing that comes to those who obey the scriptural injunction



tion to bring all the tithes into the storehouse. . . . A seventy-two-year-old Buddhist religious leader of a large area of Kratie Province became ill recently. The Buddhist priests could give him no help and the missionaries were sent for as a last resort. Through the miracle of antibiotics the old man has completely recovered. Not only the old Buddhist elder but many of his friends are now very open to the gospel. Pray for the conversion of this man and his friends.

Laos

There are some thirteen prospective students for the October opening of the Bible school, which has been moved from Xieng Khouang to Luang Prabang for this year. Most of these are married men, and their wives will also be enrolled as students. Pray that God's enabling may be upon these first-year students and upon Rev. and Mrs. M. M. Sawyer, who assume the responsibility of this work for the first year. . . . The pastor of the Vientiane church, who is also superintendent of the district and the secretary of the national church organization, has decided to leave the work of the Lord in Laos and to return to secular activities in Thailand toward the end of this year. There is a desperate need for workers in Laos; pray that the Lord's perfect will may be done in this young man's life.

Colombia

Praise God for blessings of healing and spiritual uplift experienced during the conferences that were held in Armenia in the months of July and August (July 30). . . . Continue to remember Rev. and Mrs. O. W. Jacobson, who have urgent physical needs (February 26).

Thailand

The rains have come. Give thanks to the Lord for this. Now pray they will not last too long. Last year the rains arrived in time to save the crop from drought but continued so long that the rice rotted and was lost. . . . Praise God that Rev. R. W. Tompkins, who was seriously ill (August 27 issue), has been able to return to his station, having regained much of his strength. Con-

tinue to pray for complete deliverance. While able to be back at work, Mr. Tompkins must continue his very strict diet and medication.

Ecuador

Praise God for blessing upon the Ecuadorian National Church which enters its thirteenth year in October. Pray that the new committee may be composed of the men of God's own choosing, filled with the Holy Spirit. Each year the church receives a cut in the funds received from America. Pray that the believers will rally generously to make the work entirely indigenous.

Peru

Pray for an evangelistic campaign to be held in the city of La Unión. La Unión has been a stronghold of the enemy, but with a resident pastor, Sr. Julio Martínez, God is breaking down the opposition and the work is progressing. . . . Pray that property in the metropolis of Lima can be secured for the Alliance church. It has been using the facilities of the German Lutheran congregation but may soon face the problem of securing another location. Pray that God will send in sufficient funds for the purchase of the land and the erection of a church building (February 26).

Chile

A new president, Jorge Alessandri, has just been elected by the people of Chile. In spite of the tense political atmosphere the election was carried out with complete order and tranquility. As a Liberal, the new president's political views are democratic and progressive. It was his father who, when president in 1925, brought about the separation of church and state. Pray that Señor Alessandri will respect the liberties established by the Chilean constitution, thus guaranteeing a continuance of the religious liberty enjoyed in that land. . . . Pray for Pastor Montenegro who is in charge of the churches in Capitán Pastene, Purén and Contulmo. He is suffering from a severe heart ailment and lung congestion. He desires to continue his ministry of the Word.

Japan

The Mission is contemplating opening a new department of service, colportage work, with the help of the Word of Life Press in Tokyo. An Alliance believer has felt called to this. While selling books he will hold evangelistic meetings and do personal work wherever possible. He would also have a small bookstore in his home. There is need for money for the initial investment and for a working plan with the Word of Life Press. As Japan is over 98 per cent literate, this could be a powerful means for evangelism. Books and tracts continue to speak their message for months. Pray for God's guidance in all this.

An Unswerving Testimony to the Deity of Christ

The Finality of Jesus Christ, by Robert E. Speer. Fleming H. Revell Co., Westwood, N. J. 386 pages, \$4.00.

This work, first published in 1933 and reprinted recently under its original title, stands as an unswerving testimony to the essential Christian presupposition that Jesus of Nazareth is the one unique and only-begotten Son of God. "He [Christ] closes the history of our race and He inaugurates its future" (p. 250).

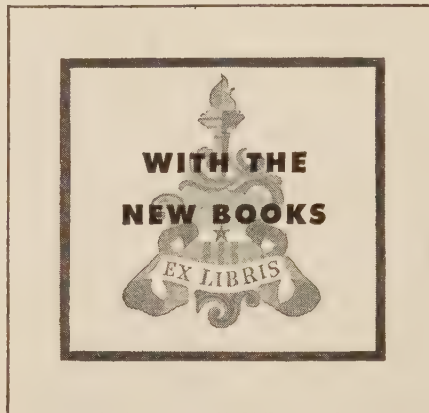
The book commences with a historical survey of the climate of opinion in the Early Church respecting the Person of Christ. The faith of the men of the first two centuries of the existence of the Christian Church is critically examined. The relationship of the Christological views of the Synoptic writers and those expressed by Paul are found to be in harmony. Eusebius, Irenaeus, Papias, etc., are cited as evidence as to the faith of the Early Church with respect to the Person of Christ. Even the heretics, he demonstrates, contributed negatively to this view, for if that high Christology had not been the settled position of the church there would then have been no good ground for regarding them as "heretics."

Since Speer was secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of U.S.A., it will come as no surprise that there is a strong missionary tone to the work. The question of the attitude that the missionary should assume towards the heathen religion of the country in which he serves is accorded a rather careful study. Speer, though acknowledging that many worthy missionaries may take issue, is still convinced that the approach need not be insulting, yet no compromise must ever under any circumstance be made between a heathen religion and the finality of Christianity.

There are some illustrations which, since the book is a reprint, are now obviously out of date. However, since Ghandi of India will be within the memory of all who will read this volume, it may not be amiss to point out that in no sense is the late Mr. Ghandi to be considered as a Christian in Speer's sober judgment. He even quotes Ghandi to the effect that despite all the benefit that came to India as a result of Christian missions he would still be willing to see the missionaries leave, if they continue to insist that Christ is supreme and transcendent over the gods of India.

There are those who may be disposed to question the sum-totality of

the theology of Speer. However, it may be pointed out that Speer underwent a kind of spiritual metamorphosis in his thinking. The author of a multiplicity of books in his younger years, he appears as very Biblical; in his middle years he gravitated toward the "liberal" position; while in his "sunset" hours, he returned, with firm if slow step, to his original moorings. The book under consideration is a product of his latter years. As far as the Christology of the work is concerned, we fail to see how it could be any more pronounced.—JOHN F. GATES.



Order your books from either house

CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Third and Reily Streets, Harrisburg, Pa.

WILLIAM H. DIETZ, INC.
10 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago 3, Ill.

I Found the Ancient Way, by Manuel Perez Vila. Moody Press, Chicago, Ill. 128 pages, 35 cents, paper.

Manuel Perez Vila was a Spanish priest who sought information on Evangelicals to satisfy curiosity and found the Christ who satisfies the longing heart. He wrote a letter of testimony to his archbishop after his conversion. This letter has been expanded and published in this inexpensive book form.

There are no exposés here, no lurid stories. Mr. Vila writes simply about Mary, the saints, images, confession, purgatory, transubstantiation and tradition; and also of the nature of the church, quoting the Bible and the early church fathers. This is a valuable little book for Christians who have Catholic friends—or who should be making friends with Catholics.—HELEN SIGRIST.

Biblical Criticism, by Wick Broomall. Zondervan Publishing House (1956), Grand Rapids, Mich. 320 pages, \$4.95.

Wick Broomall, professor of Biblical Hebrew and Old Testament Theology at Erskine Theology Seminary (Due West, S. C.), has written this stalwart

work in defense of the inspiration, authenticity and canonicity of the Scriptures, especially of the Old Testament. Despite the somewhat provocative title of the work, the volume is a sound apologetic for the supernatural origin and preservation of the Bible. It covers a good range of related subjects, as "Revelation and Criticism," "Principles of Criticism," "Archaeology and Criticism," "Criticism and Interpretation," etc.

The book is scholarly. While it never descends to invective or unkind personal reference, it nevertheless exposes the errors and prejudices of those who deny the supernatural character of Scripture.

Perhaps the most disappointing feature of the work is the eschatological outlook of the author, who is an amillennialist. However, this viewpoint should not blind us to the essential worth of the volume.—JOHN F. GATES.

God's Law and God's Grace, by Robert C. McQuilkin. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Mich. 90 pages, \$2.00.

No doubt many Christians patiently labor through the complex explanations of those who particularly stress dispensationalism, taking "dividing the word" to mean the artificial chopping of God's plan into utterly different segments. It might be a relief to many to discover that God is completely consistent in His work. A basic question is the relationship between law and grace. Did Israel make a mistake in promising to obey God's Law? Is the Sermon on the Mount "law," and the Lord's Prayer, even the four Gospels and the Book of Acts—and therefore not really for the church? No two teachers "divide" exactly alike, and this itself is confusing.

In this brief work, Robert McQuilkin wrote that "God has one plan of redemption, by grace through faith," and he believed that God worked out this same plan through one dispensation after another, enabling man to keep the Law (though never perfectly) through His grace. Those who question McQuilkin's thesis would do well to read this little book thoughtfully. Though short, it has much material, including a study of grace and works, and an explanation of our keeping the Lord's Day rather than the Jewish Sabbath which does not depend on technicalities that mar some other explanations. Finally, he answers the question "Shall we preach law or grace?" by answering that "we should preach *the Word*. There in God's Word we have law and grace rightly related." —HELEN SIGRIST.



CLIFFORD E. HARROD, Reporter

News reports may be sent direct to Rev. C. E. Harrod, The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, 1426 Wake Forest Rd., Raleigh, N. C.

To the Fields

Miss M. E. (Betty) Dyke sailed from New York on October 1, returning to India. She will be stationed in the Gjuarat area.



Betty Dyke
India

Rev. and Mrs. Gale S. Erickson and children, Beverly and Gregory, sailed from Los Angeles on October 6 for Viet Nam. Both are graduates of Simpson Bible College, and are members of the Golden Gate Alliance Church, San Francisco, Calif. They will be stationed at Danang (Tourane) for language study.

The New Generation

To Rev. and Mrs. John Craven, Oak Ridge, Tenn., a daughter, Jean Carol, on August 6.

To Rev. and Mrs. James Dittmar, McKees Rocks, Pa., a son, John Nathan, on August 11.

To Rev. and Mrs. Austin Parlman, Gabon, Africa, a son, Richard Austin, on September 29.

To Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Stieglitz, New Guinea, a daughter, Rebecca Jane, on September 30.

To Rev. and Mrs. Herbert W. Anderson, Spokane, Wash., a son, Donald Lee, on September 24.

With the Lord

Mr. Carl Woerner, long-time member of the Gospel Tabernacle Church in New York City, died suddenly September 5. Mr. Woerner was born in Germany, but when he was about twelve years old his family came to this country. He was a graduate of Nyack Missionary College and held many responsible offices in the Gospel Tabernacle. He is survived by his wife, Agnes; two daughters, Mrs. Barbara Young and Mrs. Carol Speirs, and a

son, Paul; two brothers and two sisters.

Rev. H. I. Edwardson, of Vancouver, B. C., Canada, passed away in July after having spent forty-two years in the ministry. In 1929 he and his wife founded the interdenominational Hope Mission, where for more than sixteen years they labored tirelessly in helping the needy and preaching the gospel to thousands.

In 1946 Mr. Edwardson resumed his pastoral ministry under the Alliance, serving churches at Tilly, Alta., Revelstoke and Vancouver, B. C., before retiring in 1954 because of poor health. He continued, however, as teacher of an adult Bible class in the Fraserview Alliance Chapel in Vancouver. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Hillie Edwardson; a daughter, Mrs. John Cunningham, and three sons, Ross, Wray, and Rev. Paul Edwardson, an Alliance evangelist.

Mr. Percy W. Showell, associated with the Alliance work at Owen Sound, Ont., Canada, from its beginning, went to be with the Lord on August 11. Mr. Showell helped in the construction of the Owen Sound church and for many years taught in the Sunday school and served on the church board. Mrs. Showell passed away one year prior to her husband's death.

Surviving Mr. Showell are three daughters, Ruby, Mrs. William Frizzell, and Mrs. Roland McReynolds; and two sons, Rev. G. Lawrence Showell, Alliance pastor at Denver, Colo., and Francis W., who has spent many years in Canadian pastorates.

Congregation Given Building

After a long history of meeting in rented halls for services, the Christian and Missionary Gospel Center of Wheeling, W. Va., has acquired a church building, the gift of Misses Selma and Mamie Bopp. Located on Chapel Road, Bethlehem, Wheeling, the frame structure provides attractive facilities.

The church was dedicated recently with Rev. David N. Clark, district

superintendent, present as the guest speaker. Rev. Lloyd Weston is the pastor of the group.

Tent Meetings Successful

The congregation of the Alliance Tabernacle of Guelph, Ont., Canada, reached into a new housing area of their city with three weeks of tent services this past summer.

Vacation Bible school was conducted the first week, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Portway, children's evangelists. More than 125 children were registered for this effort. The pastor is Henry Hiebert.

Two weeks of evangelistic services followed, with Rev. R. G. Simpson, of London, Ont., as the speaker.

Alliance Home Dedicates Chapel

The new chapel at the Alliance Home for the Aged, Carlisle, Pa., was dedicated on September 21. Rev. D. C. Kopp, superintendent of the Western Pennsylvania District and vice-president of the board of the Home, brought the message. Rev. J. W. McGarvey, superintendent of the Eastern District and secretary of the board, Rev. R. S. Jarrett, treasurer, and Dr. H. M. Shuman, President-Emeritus of the Society, also participated.

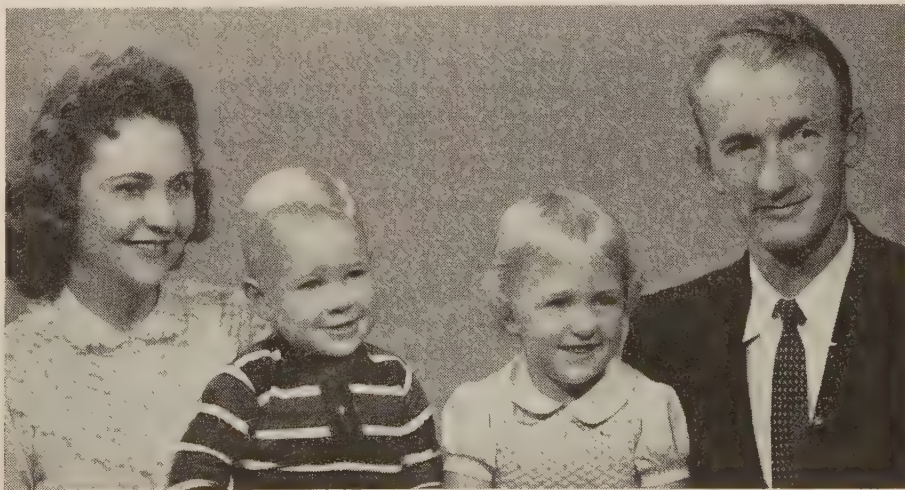
The chapel adjoins the main building. Built principally of stone with interior walls of white brick, it is furnished with pews and has a seating capacity of about two hundred.

A Baldwin spinet organ was presented by friends as a memorial to the late Miss Arlowine Jarrett, missionary to Africa, and to the late Mrs. W. R. McDuffie, who was the first guest of the Home. The pulpit furniture was a gift from one of the guests.

The chapel is called the Henry Memorial Chapel in appreciation of the loving and sacrificial ministry of Rev. and Mrs. F. W. Henry. Mr. Henry is superintendent of the Home and chairman of the board. Mrs. Henry is the matron.

(Continued on page 19)

Rev. and Mrs. Gale S. Erickson and family, Viet Nam



Sunday

MATTHEW 23:17-39 (verse 37).

It is said that once a distinguished judge, after pronouncing sentence upon a man before him and sending him forth to end his days in a penal colony, put off his judge's cap and looking the man in the face said, "Why have you forced me to do this? You were the friend of my childhood; I have loved you as I have loved few men. Why have you made it necessary that I should speak these awful words that doom you to a misery worse than death?" And he could only weep.—A. B. SIMPSON.

Monday

ACTS 4:1-22 (verse 19).

William Penn's words from London's forbidding Tower, where he was imprisoned in 1669, have in them the positive assurance that governments and fellow Christians must obey a higher power than puny man: "My prison shall be my grave before I will budge one jot, for I owe allegiance to no mortal man." . . . There is a toughness of fiber here that the world cannot match.—QUIET HOUR.

Tuesday

PSALM 42 (verse 5).

Consider but this, how much there is of God in the affliction. Came it not with God's privy? Why art thou troubled then? Thy Father knowing of it would have stopped its course if it had been best for thee. Came it not with His command? It is the cup that thy Father hath given thee, and wilt thou not drink it? . . . Meditate what there is of God in the cause of thy disquietments.—JOHN COLLINGE (1623-1690).

Wednesday

ACTS 17:22-34 (verse 28).

*To me remains no place nor time;
My country is in every clime;
I can be calm and free from care
On any shore, since God is there.*

*Could I be cast where Thou art not,
That were indeed a dreadful lot,
But regions none remote I call,
Secure of finding God in all.*

—MADAME GUYON.

Thursday

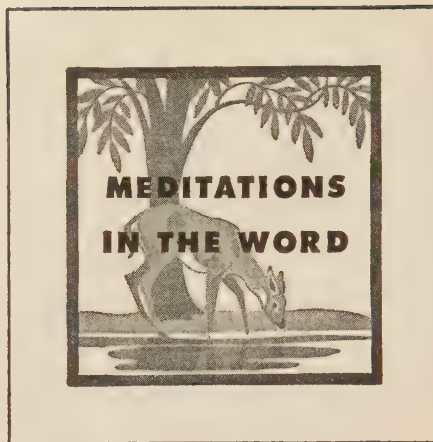
GENESIS 22:15-24 (verse 18).

Unquestioned obedience brought unqualified blessing. It was God's prerogative as Creator to ask what He would: it was Abraham's privilege to abide by the demands of such authority. And God was well enough pleased with this child of faith to reward him with the promise, established and reinforced by an oath, of a "seed" (Christ) who would bring blessing to all nations of the earth. We never know what is in God's heart to do for one who unequivocally obeys Him.—PAMEL.

Friday

MATTHEW 10:22-30 (verse 29).

There is nothing done in the lower house of parliament on earth but what is first



Edited by EDITH M. BEYERLE

decreed in the higher house in heaven. All the lesser wheels are ordered and overruled by the upper. Are not five sparrows, saith Christ, sold for a farthing? One sparrow is not worth half a farthing. And there's no man shall have a farthing's worth of harm more than God hath decreed from all eternity.—EDMUND CALAMY.

Saturday

ZECHARIAH 4 (verse 6).

A minister who had for years been depending upon his logic and accomplishments learned that when he surrendered himself to the power of the Spirit his discourses carried a marvelous conviction to people who all their lives had resisted the truth. If you will live in the Spirit He will . . . give the demonstration of His own love to every earnest seeker after Him. The feeblest and humblest may, by the power of the Spirit, do work which the most accomplished fail to do.—A. T. PIERSON.

Sunday

MATTHEW 24:1-26 (verse 14).

The evangelization of the world and its universal accomplishment is the most distinct landmark of the Lord's coming. Our Lord's prediction here is in exact accord with the words of the apostle Peter (Acts 15:14-16). . . . This is the age in which we are living. This is the time for the Gentiles. . . . Let us not fail as the disciples of Christ to meet our high and holy trust to send the gospel as a witness to all nations, that we may hasten the coming of our Lord.—A. B. SIMPSON.

Monday

1 THESSALONIANS 5:5-18 (verse 17).

The shortest, surest way to all happiness is this: Make it a rule to thank and praise God for everything that happens to you. For it is certain that, whatever seeming calamity comes to you, if you thank and praise God for it, you turn it into a blessing. Could you, therefore, work miracles, you could not do more for yourself than by this thankful spirit. For it needs not a word spoken and turns all that it touches into happiness.—ANONYMOUS.

Tuesday

PSALM 43 (verse 3).

Adam ate, and in that day became the subject of sin and death. This was *truth* executing judgment. But *light* arose around the darkness; beams of mercy tempered the heavy cloud. The promise of the Great Deliverer was given; then faithfulness was enlisted on the side of grace and became engaged in its bestowment. "Mercy and truth . . . met together; righteousness and peace . . . kissed each other." Since then all humble and trusting souls have beheld them united and have made their union the ground of their confidence and joy.—HENRY MARCH.

Wednesday

ROMANS 8:16-27 (verse 24).

*O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall how kind Thou art,
How good to those who seek!*

*But what to those who find? ah, this
Nor tongue nor pen can show;
The love of Jesus, what it is
None but His loved ones know.*

—BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX.

Thursday

GENESIS 23:1-9 (verses 4, 6).

A great gulf lay between these two stated estimates of the status of Abraham, and the reader is made to rejoice that these estimates were not stated the other way around! Abraham had no exalted opinion of himself: he was simply a "stranger and sojourner" in an alien country. Those among whom he dwelt, however, made a far different appraisal of him: to them he was a "prince." Better that others think more highly of one than he thinks of himself. Better still is it to have God's approval.—PAMEL.

Friday

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7 (verse 1).

Most of us find so many personal matters for which to make petition that our prayers often become huge mountains of difficulties about which we must talk to God. In these prayers we often forget that behind the mountains there are other people. . . . It is strange how our own troubles grow smaller when we think of the many needs of others that require our prayer attention. It is an oft-repeated experience that "I cried because I had no shoes until I saw a man who had no feet." —THE COVENANT HOME ALTAR.

Saturday

HEBREWS 13:9-21 (verse 13).

The highway of holiness is the highway of communion. It is thus we shall hope to win the crown if we are enabled by divine grace faithfully to follow Christ "without the camp." The crown of glory will follow the cross of separation. A moment's shame will be recompensed by eternal honor; a little while of witness-bearing will seem nothing when we are "for ever with the Lord."—CHARLES H. SPURGEON.

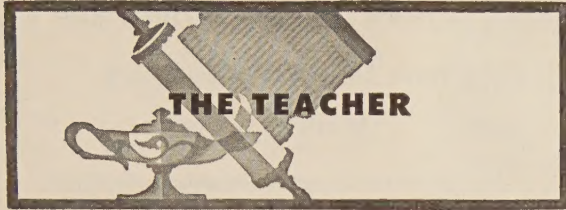
SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON—NOVEMBER 2, 1958

The Galilean Ministry Begins

Mark 1:14-22

DEVOTIONAL READING—Luke 4:16-21

GOLDEN TEXT—"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."—MARK 1:15.



BACKGROUND AND LESSON ORIENTATION

The beginning of the Galilean ministry is always associated with the termination of John's ministry by imprisonment (see Matt. 4:12; John 4:1-3). Jesus did not want to appear to be instituting a rival ministry. The heart of Christ was moved with compassion for the simple pastoral people, fishermen and vinegrowers. In Jerusalem they were regarded as ignorant country folk. Among them Jesus found His greatest response, and from among them He chose the majority of His disciples. It was Jerusalem with its atrophied religion that gave Him the most trouble. In Galilee they would have proclaimed Him king. We are therefore looking at the inception of the most important phase of His earthly ministry. Here we see Him at His loveliest—the One who did good and taught men new truths.

SIMPLIFIED OUTLINE

1. *Christ Preaches in Galilee*—Mark 1:14, 15.
2. *Christ Calls Disciples*—Mark 1:16-20.
3. *Christ Teaches in the Synagogue*—Mark 1:21, 22.

KEY WORD ANALYSIS

(1) "Astonished" (v. 22), from *ekplesso*, a compound word with *ek* ("out") and *plesso* ("to strike"). Literally it means "to strike out." It is used metaphorically here. The historian must use a graphic word to describe the radical impression made by Christ's teaching. The people were more than just impressed—they were thunderstruck.

(2) "Doctrine"—*didache* (v. 22), denotes either the subject matter or the act of teaching. Jesus was not a theologian nor a formal teacher. It was this that amazed those who heard Him. He did not belong to any recognized school of theology. They could not type Him. His words could not be neatly categorized. He was an originator of truth.

COMMENTARY ON THE PRINTED TEXT

1. *Christ Preaches in Galilee*

The silencing of John was a stern measure taken by Herod. We see Satan now reaching Christ through other means. Christ began His Messianic ministry as a preacher of good tidings. It was a ministry concerning a kingdom which was to be in the hearts of those who followed Him. This purpose was not thwarted by His death nor by the Jews' rejection of Him. It was rather abetted by His death and transferred to the Gentiles when the Jews rejected it.

Christ's definite and authoritative statements amazed His listeners. The plan of God announced in Eden and kept alive by the oracles of the prophets had now come to its fulfillment. The Seed had come and would bruise the serpent's head. The generation to which He was speaking would see the glorious fulfillment.

The Kingdom is always where the King is. To prepare for Him one must change his mind about sin and perform works which indicate this change.

2. *Christ Calls Disciples*

Christ did not come to sweep the masses into His Kingdom but to lay hold upon individual hearts through the channel of faith. These individuals would be taught and empowered and would in turn reach other individuals. It may not be proved that mass evangelism is unscriptural but it can be conclusively proved that personal evangelism was used by Christ as well as by His disciples. These men were called not because they were fishers but because Christ saw in them men who could be conformed to His image by the Spirit. He asked them to accept His leadership toward His ends with the promise that He would use His creative power in making them something which He could use in His Kingdom.

These men had ample time to ponder their response to Christ's call. We cannot attribute anything as important as this to chance. The men whom Christ chose were men who were already busy. The old man Zebedee was left to carry on the work with hired hands.

3. *Christ Teaches in the Synagogue*

From this point on the group traveled together. They started their ministry at the point which made them witnesses to their own town. The very next Sabbath they went to their own synagogue, the center of Jewish religious and community life. Visiting rabbis were invited to speak in the synagogue. There would always be a crowd willing to listen to all who would give them a word about the Law. They would give heed to Jesus because His name was now a byword in the city.

The crowds were thunderstruck with His teaching. His boldness, His originality and His authoritative manner were astonishing. He dared to set His point of view against the view of Israel's honored rabbis. Their ears were so used to the familiar clichés of stagnant religion that His teaching was like a breeze from another world. Just as significant were the acts which accompanied His teaching. Had it not been for the organized opposition from Jerusalem all men would have believed on Him.

element in the life of Christ. But they require thorough preparation because of the detail. Do as much historical and geographical research as is necessary to relate the incident to the total picture of redemption in Christ.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR LESSON PREPARATION

The portions for this quarter could not have been improved upon for simplicity of subject and concentration of thought and subject matter. Each lesson points up a single historical

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON—NOVEMBER 9, 1958

Jesus Describes Discipleship

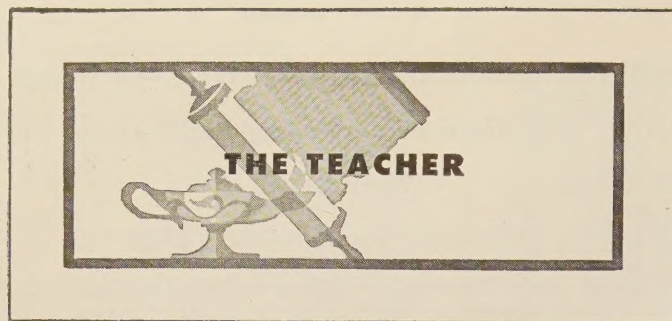
Matthew 5:1-12

DEVOTIONAL READING—Matthew 5:38-48

GOLDEN TEXT—"Ye are the salt of the earth: . . . Ye are the light of the world."—MATTHEW 5:13, 14.

CONTEXTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Sermon on the Mount is prefaced by the Beatitudes which declare the nature and blessedness of Christ's Kingdom. They spring out of a way of life which demands an inward relation to God, which causes a man to consider whether his conduct is glorifying God (5:16). It will give meaning to the righteousness of the Law (5:17-20). It will rescue men from littleness in living and set them free (5:21-42). It will teach a man to be Godlike in his attitudes toward his brother (5:43-48). It will tend to make him modest in his devotion and not to parade his religion (6:1-18). It will teach him to invest his efforts in eternal matters and take less thought for the material and temporal. It will keep him from fruits which betray the corruption of the branch (7:1-12). The Kingdom is *doing* as well as *being*.



BACKGROUND AND LESSON ORIENTATION

Jesus had already spread His amazing doctrines throughout a wide area of Galilee but the news of His ministry was not confined there. The whole province of Syria was affected. Crowds milled about Him filled with curiosity, desire and ambition. Would-be disciples were identifying themselves with Him. The Sermon on the Mount is something of a declaration of purpose on the part of Christ. Its teaching is unsurpassed for simplicity and beauty. Some of it seems paradoxical in statement but it defies human philosophy or trite explanation. It cuts across every materialistic concept and goes right to the heart of man's spiritual need. These Beatitudes have been dismissed by some as impractical, by others as "not pertaining to this dispensation"; by others as a "lovely code of ethics."

SIMPLIFIED OUTLINE

1. *Blessedness in Need*—Matthew 5:1-6.
2. *Blessedness in Virtue*—Matthew 5:7-9.
3. *Blessedness in Suffering*—Matthew 5:10-12.

KEY WORD ANALYSIS

(1) "Meek"—*praus* (v. 5). Our idea of meekness does not make it a virtue, but scripturally it is "the inwrought grace of the soul." It is the temper of spirit in which we accept the dealings of God with us as good, without disputing or resisting. It also accepts the dealings of men as being allowed of God and thus serving His ends in us. It is a rare

virtue, and conspicuous by its absence.

(2) "Filled"—from *chortazo* (v. 6), "to fill up or satisfy with food," as the stall-fed ox. Used primarily of food, it is metaphorical here. Christ taught that the secret of being thoroughly satisfied in His Kingdom is to be so dissatisfied with the world as to drive us to the bounties of His grace. Smugness in religion is paralyzing.

COMMENTARY ON THE PRINTED TEXT

1. *Blessedness in Need*

The message was given to Christ's followers to show their spiritual obligation toward the multitudes. Anything that met the need of the multitudes would have to be revolutionary. Therefore Jesus set forth the governing principles of His Kingdom.

He began by pronouncing blessedness upon any who admit that they have nothing inwardly. An admission of spiritual need is the requisite for being filled. The most pitiable person is a spiritual Samson facing the Philistines unaware that he is battling with his own resources. Spiritual dependence is the first law of the Kingdom.

There is no virtue in the act of mourning unless it is the expression of a godly repentance or indignation over the sins of the world. God's comfort is produced by correcting the need at its source. The basis for meekness is another admission of need, in this case spiritual ignorance, which may be rectified only by humble submission

to the discipline of heaven. Spiritual hunger and thirst are natural and right in the Kingdom—greatly to be desired.

2. *Blessedness in Virtue*

These Beatitudes point up the value of certain desirable virtues as well as the spiritual reward of faithfully manifesting them. Every Christian is the product of the boundless grace of God. He owes a debt he can never repay. In the spirit of this debt he is to show mercy to his brother. Since evil acts spring from evil hearts, sin must be arrested at its source. The man who can see God at work in every circumstance about him is the man whose heart is purified by faith.

The next blessing is pronounced not upon peace conferences or men who plan to bring in a humanly devised millennium without Christ, but upon those who make peace by spreading the good news of the Prince of peace. He is therefore responsible for bringing in a state of permanent reconciliation which removes the cause for enmity. Such individuals are the children of God in the highest sense.

3. *Blessedness in Suffering*

This teaching is by far the most radical departure from human philosophy. When persecution of any sort is a matter for blessedness it demands a frame of mind that has been conditioned by laws higher than human laws. The word describes being chased down and hunted as Saul hunted David. The motivating cause of such indignities is hatred for Christ and His people. Since it is not caused by evil it should not be borne with a spirit of revenge or retaliation. Such reproach must be without cause or it does not fall into the sphere of "persecution." When trouble is deserved no virtue comes from suffering punishment.

Christ actually taught that there is no earthly situation which should bring more intense joy to the man of God than to know that he is bearing pain for the sake of his Lord. Such suffering unites him with a great company of worthy men. It was because they too spoke the words of God without fear or favor of men that they had the stripes laid across their backs.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR LESSON PREPARATION

Do not assume from the simple language of the Beatitudes that there will be no difficulty in understanding them or making them understood. The student is faced with paradox-

ical statements which are contrary to human views. Christ showed in them the secret of the abundant life. If they are too practical for our age it is because we are too worldly to embrace them.

A MURDEROUS ONSLAUGHT

(Continued from page 12)

eight stitches. All of this they did in primitive surroundings. Dr. José Alvarado and his helpers won the admiration of everyone by their high devotion to duty and by their skill.

The Philippine churches are lifting hearts of praise to the Lord for so wonderfully protecting their beloved superintendent and his family. If the shadowy figure that was racing from house to house had not been stopped when he was, the Youngs would have been next to suffer his onslaught. The heroic mother and some of the others who were wounded are earnest Christians. All give praise to God for sparing their lives.

A few days before this Rev. and Mrs. Byron Ross were in Margos. They had tied their houseboat at the landing near Pedro Villa's house. If they had been there the morning of May 28, their lives would also have been imperiled. In this fiendish outbreak they see the savage efforts of Satan to thwart the advance of Christ's church. The marvelous deliverance which God effected through a partly crippled believer they regard as an encouragement to the church. ♦ ♦ ♦

THE ALLIANCE FAMILY

(Continued from page 15)

Rev. R. S. Roseberry spoke in the evening service and each evening during the following week.

The cost of the chapel was approximately \$56,000.

Church Planned for Kansas City, Mo. Extension work is being started in Kansas City, Mo., and Rev. C. R. Thomas, superintendent of the Western District, desires to receive the names of Alliance members and friends who may be living in the area. His address is 6910 South Lowe Ave., Chicago 21, Ill.

Books Wanted

Dr. H. M. Shuman, President-Emeritus, would like to borrow or purchase a copy of *The Little Man from Chicago*, the story of Rev. Wilbur F. Meminger, an early leader of our Society. Readers may communicate with Dr. Shuman at 432 Arch St., Carlisle, Pa.

A pastor in Hopeville, Ont., would like to secure a copy of *After Fifty Years*, a history of the C. & M. A. published in 1939. Please write to Rev. W. C. Troyer, Hopeville, Ont., Canada.

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ALLIANCE MISSIONS ON THE MARCH



G. W. TUBBS

Leaders of the Laotian church: Pastor Moun (left) and Elder Sieng

Hope in Laotian Jungles

SOME of the things happening in Laos as a result of gospel ministries are as bright rays of hope. Here are some excerpts from reports to conference:

Xieng Khouang. Two great spiritual life conventions have been held since last conference. More than one thousand people were present at one and fifteen hundred at the other. Testimony services highlighted these gatherings as the Christians gave radiant witness to God's working in their lives. Fifty converts received baptism at the close of the Easter convention.

Luang Prabang. From nearly all of the twenty-eight villages in Luang Prabang district there were delegates to the annual church conference. An event of particular note in this district has encouraged the believers to look for the inhabitants of an entire new area to soon be won to Christ. A party of Christian workers held services in an isolated Mèo village. In response to their messages the chief sorcerer and nine other people promptly destroyed their pagan charms. Fellow villagers began at once to strongly oppose them for this stand, but they are remaining firm. Courageous faith in the face of persecution is always the most powerful weapon for advance that the Church has been given.

Sayaboury and Vientiane. Extensive itinerations through these provinces have brought the missionaries into many remote villages. Amid the darkness of heathenism eleven Mèo villages in Vientiane shine. Some of these villages are entirely Christian. Eight years ago a tribesman from that area was converted when on a visit to the capital city. Through his testimony and the Christian literature he received, many others also believed. In several of these villages the Christians have already built chapels and are asking the Mission to send a worker to teach them more of the Word of God.

THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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